

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

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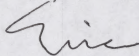
Mr. Louis Jordan
52087 Central Avenue
South Bend, IN 46637-3806

Dear Lou:

I believe that a long while ago you requested information on the Lord Baltimore coinage which you were planning to write up. I have accumulated a number of items which may be of some help to you. The group of six enlarged photocopies are items in our collection.

I did the best I could in clarifying the set with a group of weights, which I hope is somewhat readable. I also enclose a four-page write-up of mine dated May 14, ? -- the year of which is not written clearly but must have been during Richard Picker's life.

My best regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Eric", written in a cursive style.

Eric P. Newman, Pres.









Spn
12d



EPN

6d



2PN5

24el

LORD

BALTIMORE COINAGE

SHILLING

AUTHORIZED WT 69.67

GRAINS

NEWMAN EX NEWCOMER

64

STEINBERG

59 1/2

RP 52-7 EX RCDAVIS 1890 LOT 2343

72 1/2

RP 62-17

64 1/4

CROSBY (AVERAGE ?)

66.

AMS

63.5

SIXPENCE

34.87

NEWMAN EX NEWCOMER

42

STEINBERG

36 3/4

RP 59-4

38 1/4

RP 65-14 EX BOWERS 3/4.11/78 #2

38 1/4

RP 49-30 EX MILLS

37 1/2

RP + STACKS SHIPLE 8773

39 3/4

BOWERS - RECENT COIN REVIEW

36.2

CROSBY

34

AMS

42.

GROAT

23.22

FOLLETT C/W AD 3/13/78

28 1/4

NEWMAN EX NEWCOMER

30 1/2

STEINBERG

23 1/4

R.P. 5-34

23+

RP 49-31 (THICK PLANCHET See Entry ~~137~~ PAGE 137 HOLED)

40

CROSBY

25

AMS

30.5

SUSPECT VI 48.55 GRAINS SpG 9.86 S/B @ 10.5

Richard Picher

May 19 1914

Re: Baltimore 6d

I am very concerned about the Baltimore 6d you sent for study. It has good variable color and appearance. It rings. The two suspicious factors are a weight of 48.55 grains and a specific gravity of 9.86.

As to weight the coins are supposed to be $\frac{3}{4}$ the of the English standard silver (92.9 grains for a shilling and 46.5 grains for a 6d - actually per Greber 90 grains for a shilling and 45 for 6d) which is 69.67 grains for a Baltimore shilling and 34.8 grains for a Baltimore 6d. The Baltimore coins should be sterling (.925 fine) which has a specific gravity of 10.2 - 10.6 depending on adulterant and corrosion.

My own coins are from the Newcomer collection

12d	63.5 grains	10.6 sp gr
6d	42. grains	10.5 sp gr
4d	30.5 grains	10.2 sp gr.

Crosby gives weights of

see next page 2
Total 4

Crosby gives weights of

12d 66 grains; 6d 34 grains; 4d 25 grains.
Amer Numism Society collection shows

12d 71.6 + 64.6; 6d 34.1; 4d 21.7 grains.

Pieces in your inventory are

12 72.5 + 64.25; 6d 37.5, 38.25, 38.25, 39.75; 4d 23 grains.

You report Gilbert Steinberg collection at

Plugged 12d 59.5; 6d 36.75; goat 23.25 grains

Can you get the specific gravity on yours or Steinberg's
You said a 4d was advertised in CW at 28.25 grains

I enclose copy of my 1965 opinion to
Jerry Cohen showing 8.8 sp gr for a forgery of
53 grains and another 8.8 sp gr forgery at 44 grains
These were casts.

The 6d you sent has an oval horizontal dent
on the obverse below the cross. It has dents on the shield
more or less in line. It has filing and roughness on
the edge. It doesn't have casting defects showing but
I can't rely on that any more.

The piece is so low in specific gravity and so high in weight it could be a cast. The metal book says its specific gravity means 62% silver and 38% copper. If copper is the adulterant, remelted silver with some plated silver might produce this low specific gravity and then they made it heavier to make up the deficiency in fineness. That is the only explanation I can give for the two queer measurements.

I don't think this could be an electro but I have not X-rayed it and that should be done.

I am concerned that this could be a cast forgery which has been aged for years so as to discolor unevenly.

I'm not positive it's bad, I'm not positive it's good. If no one has any other ideas I have to take an equivocal position which is horrible.

What do you think now? You think you are worried. I dream about this problem.

SPARKS
By SPN

The corn is returned herewith.

SPARKS + KNOX CORN LIST # 54

SIXPENCE 36.2 GRAMS

TOP FANTAIL

SPARK	75
wt	44 1/2
wt	20 1/2

LORD BALTIMORE COINAGE

Important Lord Baltimore Shilling Rarity



Undated (1659) Lord Baltimore Shilling, Hodder 1-A, W-1080. Large Bust, MARIAE. Fine-15 (PCGS). A pleasing example of an elusive and historically distinctive issue, coined for Sir Lord Baltimore Cecil Calvert for circulation in his proprietary colony of Maryland. This deep slate-gray specimen is well-worn but not noticeably marked by its stay in circulation. The usual die damage from a cock-eyed clash is seen on the right side of Calvert's Arms on the reverse. A natural planchet split engages both sides, the split down through the cross above Calvert's head on the obverse and upward from the reverse rim at 6 o'clock, passing between the M and V in that spot and terminating at the bottom of the Arms. Additionally, a small rim flaw, as struck, is seen at the 6 o'clock position on the obverse and carries onto the reverse at the noon position. Other than those two naturally occurring flaws, no marks of any appreciable measure can be seen, even under low magnification. Specialists and want list collectors alike should bear in mind that this specimen is an absolutely choice example despite its modest assigned grade, and we suspect a great showing from this piece as it crosses the auction block.

The terms of Calvert's grant called for him to be guaranteed all rights enjoyed by the Bishop of Durham, who had issued coins in his own name during the Middle Ages. Thus, Calvert had shillings, sixpences, groats (four pence), and copper pennies (or denariums) coined bearing his bust and Arms, and passed local ordinances in Maryland calling for their mandatory circulation. He ran afoul of British authorities, who frowned on him exporting silver from the mother country no matter what the terms of his claim may have been. Despite his legal troubles, coins of every denomination reached Maryland and began circulating there in the early 1660s. Today, most survivors of this denomination are in poor condition, often holed and plugged after use in jewelry, badly polished, well-worn, or a combination of the above. While sixpences often survive in decent grade, thanks in part to a hoard of about 20 pieces located in England in the last decade, the shillings rarely fared so well. While a few high grade pieces exist today, more than one of them shows what may be charitably called negative eye appeal.

PCGS# 34.

From our (Stack's) sale of the Philip G. Straus Collection, May 1959, lot 3.

ST. PATRICK COINAGE



Undated (Circa 1663-1672) St. Patrick or Mark Newby Farthing. Breen-208, W-11500. Nothing Below King. Copper. Reeded Edge. Fine-15 (PCGS). CAC. One of Breen's "nothing below king" varieties. The deep golden-tan surfaces of this attractive specimen appear glossy and hard to the unassisted eye, and low magnification offers nothing more than some faint graininess here and there but no substantial marks. Bulged in the obverse field behind the kneeling king which weakened the bottoms of REX and the back of the king's torso. Belly of harp's figure nearly touches O in FLOREAT, brass splasher intact at crown, REX and the colons before and after that word widely separated, reverse saint's hand points to I in QUIESCAT, T of that word connected to tiny cross atop saint's miter, top of metropolitan cross points between L and E in PLEBS, cross at top of church steeple points to upright of B. Choice for the grade at every turn.

PCGS# 42.